

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 RSR-01 /047 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7205

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, RP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: REACTION TO PART 213

1. DURING LUNCHEON TALK WITH ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AUGUST 8, AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ INDICATED TOP CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE IMPLICATIONS PART 213, BUT HOPEFUL THAT SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND TO BILATERAL IMPASSE. ROMUALDEZ INDICATED PROBABLY MOST RECURRENT THEME IN FILIPINO REACTION BY REFLECTING THAT U.S. CARRIERS "ONCE AGAIN HAVE SERVED ONLY THEIR NARROW INTERESTS". HE AGREED THAT PRIOR SITUATION IN NO WAY A GOOD ONE, DEPLORED THE FACT THAT CONTINUING IMPASSE IMPEDED PHILIPPINE PROGRESS ON TOURISM PROMOTION AND SAID THAT HE THOUGHT A WAY COULD BE FOUND TO MOVE TOWARD THE US GOAL OF A BERMUDA AGREEMENT BUT THAT THIS AS OF NOW WOULD HAVE TO BE INFORMAL. ASKED WHAT HE MEANT BY INFORMAL HE SAID PERHAPS A MEMORANDUM AGREEMENT RATHER THAN A FULL TEXT AND THAT MEMORANDUM WOULD BE FOR SHORT, FIXED PERIOD OF A YEAR OR SO.

2. ROMUALDEZ REMINDED IN TALK OF PROPOSAL AGCAOILI HAD CONVEYED INFORMALLY PRIOR TO U.S. CAB ACTION AND HE SAID IN EFFECT THAT HE FELT INTERIM AGREEMENT SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE MAIN PACIFIC ROUTES. MANILA-WEST COAST VIA THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AND GUAM, AND MANILA-TOKYO-WEST COAST. HE SAID THERE WERE OTHER

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ROUTE ASPIRATIONS WHICH HE FELT MIGHT BE DEFERRED BUT THAT

AGREEMENT ON IMPROVEMENT IN THE PACIFIC ROUTE FREQUENCY/
CAPACITY REGIME WOULD BE A TREMENDOUS STEP FORWARD.

3. ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AGREED AND REITERATED HIS
EARLIER THOUGHT THAT PROPOSALS THIS TYPE IN PAST HAD
BROUGHT SO MANY OF THE ISSUES ONTO THE TABLE AS TO REQUIRE
COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT AND THIS MADE A BALANCE DIFFICULT
TO ACHIEVE. ROMUALDEZ REPLIED THAT THIS MIGHT BE TRUE,
BUT THE UNITED STATES HAD TO REALIZE THAT ITS POTENTIAL
GAINS FROM PHILIPPINE TRAFFIC WERE INEVITABLY GREATER THAN
PAL COULD OR WOULD EVER HAVE. THE FILIPINOS, HE SAID, WERE
PREPARED TO GRANT THIS, AND THEY WOULD ALSO GRANT, HE
FELT, THAT IN THE TRADEOFFS OF ANY NEW ARRANGEMENT THE
UNITED STATES WOULD DERIVE IMMEDIATELY SOMEWHAT MORE
BENEFIT THAN THE PHILIPPINES. HE MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER,
THAT FILIPINOS BY THAT TOKEN WERE NOT MERELY GOING TO GIVE
UP ON THEIR MAIN ROUTE ASPIRATIONS AND THESE CLEARLY
FOCUSED AT PRESENT ON THE TWO DOCKETED ITEMS BEFORE
THE U.S. CAB: THE SEPARATE REQUESTS FOR GUAM RIGHTS AND
FOR A TOKYO ROUTE.

4. ROMUALDEZ ASSERTED SEVERAL TIMES THAT AGREEMENT ON
SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE REACHED INFORMALLY
NOW. HE ENCOURAGED ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR TO COME FORWARD
WITH SCHEME THAT MET MAIN PAL GOALS AND "GAVE A BIT
MORE THAN THAT" TO THE U.S. AFTER A BIT OF EXPERIENCE WITH
THIS, HE SAID, MORE WOULD BE POSSIBLE, AND "IF THIS
APPROACH HAD BEEN ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. THREE YEARS
AGO, WE WOULD BE IN A BERMUDA REGIME NOW." HE
CONCLUDED THAT IF A WORKABLE PROPOSAL WERE POSSIBLE, HE
WOULD "REMAIN IN MANILA AS LONG AS NECESSARY TO WORK IT
OUT" WITH THE PRESIDENT AND OTHERS CONCERNED. ECON/COM
COUNSELOR SAID THAT AMBASSADOR'S FRAME OF MIND
VERY ENCOURAGING, THAT ALL CONCERNED WERE HOPEFUL A SOLUTION
COULD BE FOUND, AND WE WOULD CERTAINLY CONTINUE TO TRY.

SULLIVAN

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